

**"Entire Superiority of American  
Institutions."**

[illegible]

[From the London Telegraph, May 18.]

A single vote has preserved President Johnson from conviction on the main charge brought against him in the telegraphic report, which we publish to-day, gives the figures correctly, fifty-four Senators recorded their votes against the President, and thirty-five in his favor, and nineteen against it. Now, according to the provisions of the American constitution, the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senate is requisite in order to secure a vote of impeachment, and it is evident that the majority on this occasion could have detached one vote from the minority the verdict would have been against the President.

It is not probable that any of the Senators who have been deposed from his high office. We cannot, however, be sure that the division really represented the conflicting opinions of the Senate. The original scheme for securing the representation of the individuals, *leads* to most unsatisfactory results. In a small body, such as the Senate, the majority will be a single individual member can be predicted with nearly absolute certainty before the scrutiny is taken, the less conscientious are under an immense temptation to vote against the President, and it is not once had become clear that the authority favorable to the President was large enough to secure his re-election. The members of the Senate, who are not republicans party who are not hearts may have doubted the expediency of the impeachment were natural

**PROGRESS OF THE WESTERN STORM.**—The storm in the West, on the 25th ult. passed St. Louis at three o'clock and Seymour, Ind., at eleven o'clock Wednesday evening, reached as far south as Cairo and as far north as Chicago, the traveling at the rate of about three miles per hour. It passed over Lexington, Ky., about two o'clock yesterday morning, over the Allegheny Mountains at noon, and reached Washington at seven o'clock. At seven o'clock last evening, going from St. Louis, Mo., to Washington, D. C., a distance of thirteen degrees, in twenty-eight hours.—*Cincinnati Commercial*, May 30.

words. During the struggle between Texas and Mexico Mr. Buchanan gave his entire sympathy and support to the cause of the former, and strongly urged the recognition of her independence by the United States. Upon the outbreak of the rebellion he was elected to the Union, at a subsequent period, he was a warm advocate in favor of acquiescence. On the French indemnity question, and on the claims against the administration of Andrew Johnson, he was in the minority relative to the right of alien residents voting. Mr. Buchanan took an active part in favor of the claimants against the estate of the late President Andrew Johnson. Second. Soon after the election of Mr. Van Buren Mr. Benton introduced his celebrated expunging resolutions, which the deceased ardently supported. Third. He was elected to the Senate, where resolutions which were called forth by them Mr. Buchanan's powers as a debator were fully tested. He also supported the leading measure of Mr. Van Buren's administration, the re-estabishment of the National Treasury, and, as its success involved the continuance of the democratic party, all his abilities were devoted to its support. In the Senate he was one of those of his political associates to whom Mr. Van Buren failed to command the confidence of the President. He generally opposed the administration of Mr. Van Buren, and was one of the few members of the Presidency. The whig party was now in a majority in both houses of Congress and in a majority of States, while the prospects of the democracy were gloomy. Mr. Buchanan was elected to the Senate, and was repeated, and a bill to recharter the United States Bank was passed and would have become law had not General Harrison died before he could sign it. His successor, the "fiscal corporation," was next passed and vetoed, but before which, and during the debate, Mr. Buchanan delivered a series of able and humorous speeches in which he took the opposition. The efforts of the Whigs to impeach Mr. Tyler and to deprive the President of his veto and other powers, received no support from him. He was one of several of his ablest associates. The administration of Mr. Tyler was consistently supported by him, and his principles and most in-

political. Mr. Buchanan acted at a period in the public life of Mr. Buchanan which, although the most important in his career, has been, and probably ever will be, the subject of antagonistic opinions. The events which mark the history of the reader to nearly the end of Mr. Lincoln are of too recent date, and from the momentous events they precede must have too vivid an impression upon the memory of the reader to need a constant reference. But the story of Mr. Buchanan in those hours of peril, his efforts to stay the madness of secession and rebellion or his encouragement of it, as he was called upon to do, is a story which he was the author, are not yet satisfactorily explained before the public, and it is probable that the true facts may never be known. The charges against him of aiding and abetting the rebels were numerous, and are supported by so many plausible statements that we may well hesitate and falter in our decision whether he aided the rebels against the constitution and to the country, on the one hand, but Mr. Buchanan and his friends vigorously defended him against the assaults of his opponents. It is not surprising, therefore, that there could have stayed the torrent of rebellion. There was no adequate army and no efficient navy with which to oppose the rebels; the army and navy consisted of the insurgents in the Southern States. Nevertheless, as admitted by himself, he consented that General Scott should attempt the supplying of Fort Sumter. He was charged by him in October, 1862, in reply to certain charges made against him by the General, he denies such charges, and states that he never intended to make active measures to suppress the impudic rebellion; but alleged, on the contrary, that every movement proposed to him by General Scott was cheerfully assented to by him, and that all his arrangements rendered by opposing parties of equal possibility and veracity, it would seem absolutely impossible to decide whether the version of the one or the other is the truth. At the time Mr. Buchanan was most ludicrously inconsistent. While positively and unequivocally denying that he had aided the rebels, he was at the same time with equal force and absoluteness that Congress and the United States had no constitutional nor moral right to coerce a State. Two such diametrically opposed positions could hardly be maintained by one of but one sentiment were most fatal to his popularity among the people. By those who believed in the right of secession, he was regarded as the champion of that right was an evidence of his fraternity with the rebellion party; while his denial of the right of coercion was regarded by the North as an evidence of sympathy with the rebels. In fact, Mr. Buchanan's position was a defence of his course in this respect does not throw any light upon the subject. It is, however, simply justice to his memory to state that after the rebellion broke out, Mr. Buchanan did not neglect his vigorous prosecution until the supremacy of the Union and constitution was recognized and obeyed.

Mr. Buchanan retired to private life in 1861, with perhaps less of popularity than any former retiring President ever had. He had always claimed to have been a man of peace, and his message of January 8, 1861, closed with the following words:—"I feel that my duty has been faithfully, though I may be imperfectly performed, and when ever I shall be permitted to appear before you, I am conscious that I at least meant well for my country." His fellow citizens, however, could not see in his conduct anything more than the successful success of the rebels had inflamed the minds of the loyal people of the North to a high pitch, and they perceived in Mr. Buchanan only a feeble and ineffective

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

... well known.